

In the recent past there has been a proposal to allow amateur radio allocation on long wave. That proposal was vigorously objected to by power companies because of the possibility that amateur signals may be picked up by thier lines, causing interference to thier control and communications systems. Despite the fact that the power company systems are NOT licensees they demanded protection from any possible interference. As a result, the long wave amateur band porposal was defeated.

This proposal turns that argument on it's head; power companies now want other users of the radio spectrum to ignore the dangers of interference from power line digital data signals leaking OUT of THIER systems!

Further... I have no doubts that they will once again demand FCC action when the externally generated signals from licensees and others leak INTO thier lines, causing interference to thier data transmissions. Amateur, military, broadcast and aviation radio systems, among MANY others, will "reasonably" have to modify or completely curtail thier operations in order to protect the power company digital data systems, or so the power industry argument will say.

Data transmission by power line is, at this time, an unnecessary technology. One reason for the collapse of many corporations like WorldCom is the fact that there is already TOO MUCH data system infrastructure, installed and maintained at high costs, which is sitting idle because of a lack of user demand.

Because of it's potentially disasterous increase in radio noise levels across the entire LF and HF radio spectrum, not to mention the already noted danger of external signal ingress interfering with such a system, power line data transmission systems should not be approved by the Commission. Other technologies are now available which are more secure, more compatable with existing systems, and much less likely to cause irreparable harm to the whole of the US communications infrastructure.

I wholeheartedly OPPOSE the approval of digital data transmission via power lines.

Thank you for your consideration.